

## Home reading-2018-2019



Dear Parents,

Following last years success with promoting reading at home we are continuing our home reading challenge. Last year we saw over 250 children read at least 5 times a week from when we started the challenge and some even read every single day from when we started the challenge. We were signing and handing out many certificates each day and the reading was tracked and celebrated within school. Teachers were impressed by the change in attitudes towards reading the growth in confidence. We will continue with the same structure this year but we will have a new level of reward where by there will be a prize once children reach 100 reads which can be chosen and given alongside their certificate. In this letter we will outline our expectations, which are high, but rewarding for children over the year.

All of our children should be **reading at home at least 5 times a week** and this should be recorded in their diaries. Lsas and teachers will be checking diaries daily and children will earn a tick each time they read at home. **In ks2 diaries will also be checked daily and children will earn a tick if they have read to themselves or an adult; someone at home must still sign the diary.** We will monitor this very closely and children will earn certificates for reading 25 times at home, then 50 times and so on; they will collect most of their certificates in class. When they reach 100,200 and 300 they will get a certificate from a member of the senior leadership team and they will get a prize. For 100 it is a pencil and notebook, for 200 a book and for 300 an extra prize.

**If on a Friday we see that your child has not read 5 times over the previous 7 days children will take part in catch up reading during their break time on a Friday.** This will happen in one of our classrooms and some teachers will be present. Your children will come home with a slip to inform you that your child has been in through break for catch up reading. This is not a detention and is not a punishment it is simply extra time for your child to focus on their reading that they have missed out on at home. If you have any questions regarding how this will work please ask your child's teacher. Your child has a reading book pitched at their level but they may also read anything they enjoy to read at home. This can also be recorded in the diary.

## **FAQ-Reading at home**

### **When does the reading week start and end?**

The week runs from a Friday to Thursday. One tick is available per day. If on a Friday your child has not read 5 times they will have catch up reading time during Friday break.

### **How many ticks can be earned in a week?**

Children can earn 7 ticks per week and if they do this they will reach their 25 reads quicker than a child reading 5 times a week.

### **What if my child forgets their diary on a Friday or during the week?**

A note can be written to show how much reading your child has done at home. So even if they leave their diary in school write their reading on a note. You may need to let the teacher know on the playground because sometimes children leave them in their bag.

### **My child is not very good at remembering their diary and book- do they still need to read at home?**

YES! We are trying to promote a level of independence in our children and although we know they need reminders and support we would like to them to reach a stage where they are remembering for themselves.

### **My child has read but I haven't had time to sign the diary- will they still need to stay in for catch up reading?**

YES! To make it fair across the school and to support children in the best possible way we ask that diaries are signed as the week progresses.

### **What should I write in the diary?**

At the very least we ask for a date and signature. It is helpful if you can also add the text and anything you discussed or liked but if you are short of time a signature and date is fine.

### **Will reading in school count towards the reading sessions?**

NO! Reading in school is also very important and adults will sign the diaries to communicate how your child is getting on in their reading. This reading challenge is to promote home reading and to create a shared partnership between school and home.

### **Who can sign the diary?**

Anyone at home. Mum, Dad, brother, sister, auntie, uncle, grandad, grandma, childminder....

### **What can my child read at home?**

Each child in school will have a colour reading book set at their level but they can also read their school library book if they wish. Children may read any books they have at home, comics, instructions, recipes or kindle books. If they were looking and reading from a research website you could even record this. Sometimes it is perfectly ok to read your child's book to them and to record that in their diary. Reading to your children is as important as them reading to you. Some of our children in lower key stage one could use picture books and discuss the story and what they think about the pictures. We want it to be an enjoyable process for the children and families involved.

### **How much does my child have to read to earn the tick?**

As much as they like! It could be one page; it could be a chapter or a whole book. Each book is different and each child is different. Reading should be enjoyable and purposeful but it is whatever works for you and your child.

### **Does reading to my child count?**

Yes! Reading aloud to your child is very important- especially when they are young. If you're child is too tired or you just simply want to read to them then please do. Record this in the diary and it will count.

### **Dates (example week)**

Friday 7th September 2018- Challenge starts.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 - Children could have earned 3 ticks (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> tick from Monday

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> tick from Tuesday

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> tick from Wednesday

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> tick from Thursday (7 ticks could have been earned by this point but we ask children have read at least 5 times)

This would continue again from the Friday. On Monday diaries are checked again to earn the 3 ticks.

Over the year we plan to run workshops for reading at home but as always if you have any questions please speak to your child's teacher. Any issues arising with the structure of the challenge should be discussed with Miss Havey (KS2 and English leader)

Thank you for your continued support

Gemma Havey

